November 6, 1959

BUSINESS STATISTICS

A WEEKLY SUPPLEMENT TO THE **SURVEY OF CURRENT BUSINESS**

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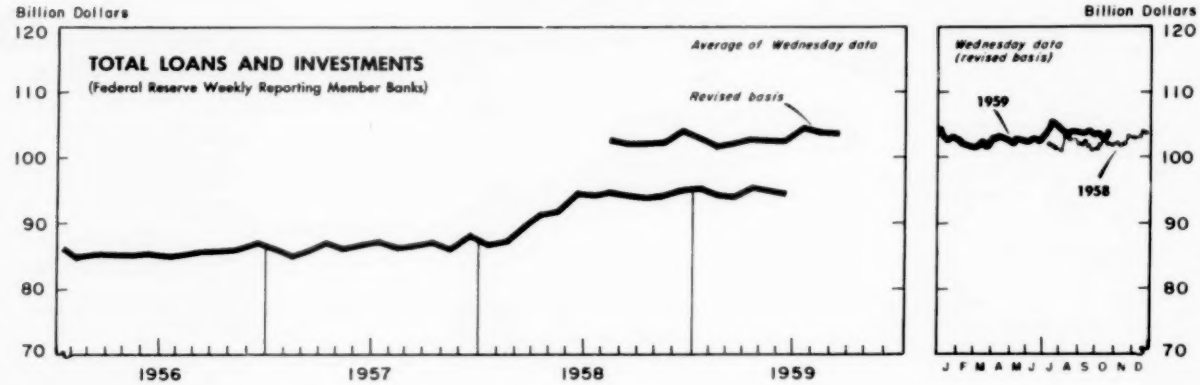
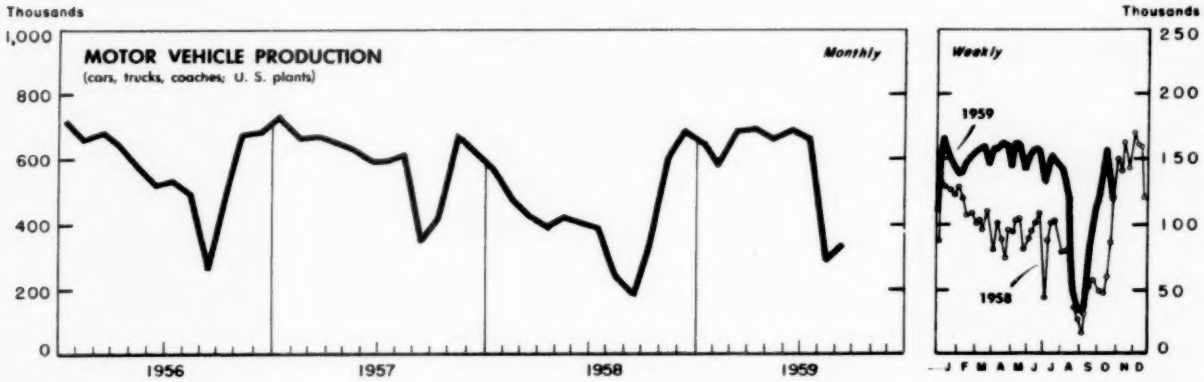
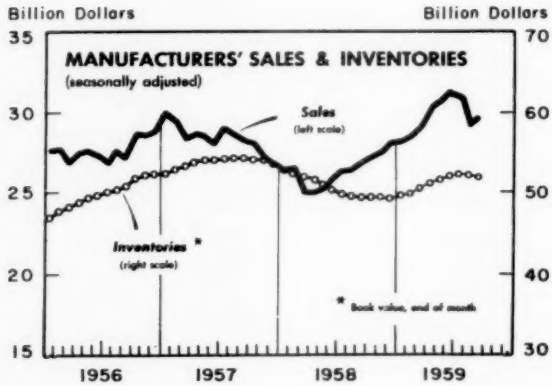
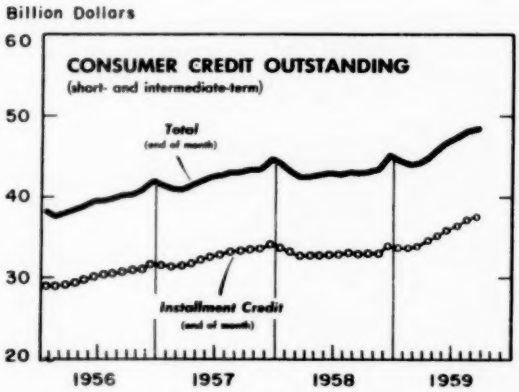
SELECTED BUSINESS INDICATORS









WEEKLY BUSINESS STATISTICS[1]

ITEM	1958		1959			
	Oct. 25	Nov. 1	Oct. 10	Oct. 17	Oct. 24	Oct. 31
Commodity prices, wholesale:						
All commodities.....1947-49=100..	.....	*119.6	119.2	119.2	119.1	119.3
Farm products.....do....	.....	*88.9	86.8	86.5	86.1	86.8
Foods, processed.....do....	.....	*107.8	106.2	106.2	106.1	106.3
All other.....do....	.....	*128.4	128.5	128.5	128.5	128.6
22 commodities 2/.....do....	87.0	86.8	85.6	85.6	85.9	86.9
Department store sales.....do....	140	136	151	160	151	.....
Insured unemployment, total 3/.....thous..	1,863	1,860	1,379	1,456	.....	.....
State programs (incl. Alaska and Hawaii).....do....	1,693	1,676	1,213	1,286	.....	.....
Failures, industrial and commercial.....number..	275	299	274	252	250	273
Finance:						
Currency in circulation 4/.....mil. of dol..	31,435	31,299	31,933	32,096	32,026	31,873
Federal Reserve bank credit outstanding, total 4/.....do....	27,046	26,767	28,623	28,667	28,664	28,353
Member bank reserve balances 4/.....do....	18,652	18,515	18,636	18,501	18,679	18,568
Excess reserves, estimated 4/.....do....	566	522	493	475	489	289
Reporting member banks (of F.R.System) in leading cities:5/						
Demand deposits, adjusted.....mil. of dol..	60,933	61,541	60,051	60,827	60,805	.....
Time deposits, except interbank.....do....	30,207	30,230	30,625	30,590	30,567	.....
Loans and investments (adjusted), total.....do....	**101,915	**101,792	103,026	102,790	103,916	.....
U. S. Government obligations.....do....	34,570	34,351	27,665	27,443	28,483	.....
Commercial and industrial loans (gross).....do....	.....	.....	29,509	29,704	29,548	.....
Real-estate loans (gross).....do....	11,153	11,189	12,459	12,491	12,510	.....
Bond yields, domestic corporate (Moody's) 4/.....percent..	4.41	4.42	4.88	4.87	4.86	4.85
Stock prices, 500 stocks (Stand. & Poor's) 5/...1941-43=10..	51.07	51.19	56.94	56.71	56.55	57.46
Industrials, 425 stocks.....do....	54.70	54.73	60.96	60.69	60.49	61.62
Production:						
Bituminous coal 4/.....thous. of short tons..	1,452	1,465	1,294	1,329	1,350	.....
Electric power, by utilities.....mil. of kw.-hr..	12,174	12,330	13,086	12,861	12,762	.....
Motor vehicles (cars, trucks, coaches).....number..	87,352	120,366	142,350	157,618	133,454	119,342
Petroleum (crude) and condensate 4/.....thous. of bbl..	6,919	6,911	6,809	6,839	6,875	.....
Steel 6/.....thous. of short tons..	2,026	2,024	362	368	371	371
Percent of capacity.....	#75.1	#75.0	12.8	13.0	13.1	13.1
Freight carloadings, total.....thous. of cars..	675	674	559	581	607	.....
Miscellaneous.....do....	336	336	302	309	319	.....

1/ Data do not always cover calendar weeks. 2/ Tuesday prices. 3/ Includes data for Alaska and Hawaii, and for the following programs: State; R.R.; Federal employees; veterans; and ex-servicemen. 4/ Daily average. 5/ Wednesday data; leaders indicate data not available. 6/ Week beginning November 1, 1959: Production, 368 thous. short tons; operating rate, 13.0 percent. * Monthly index for October 1958. ** Not strictly comparable with data for 1959. # Based on January 1, 1958, annual capacity (140,742,570 tons); not comparable with 1959 rates which are based on January 1, 1959, annual capacity (147,633,670 tons).

MONTHLY BUSINESS STATISTICS

ITEM	1958		1959			
	August	September	June	July	August	September
GENERAL BUSINESS INDICATORS						
Manufacturers' sales:						
Value (unadjusted), total.....mil. of dol..	26,143	27,323	31,993	29,246	r28,525	29,878
Durable goods industries, total 1/.....do....	11,880	12,687	16,653	14,220	r13,049	13,713
Primary metal.....do....	1,900	2,069	3,259	1,785	r1,165	1,206
Fabricated metal.....do....	1,592	1,696	1,827	1,760	r1,810	1,930
Machinery (including electrical).....do....	3,615	3,993	4,808	4,350	r4,403	4,761
Transportation equipment (incl. motor vehicles).do....	2,103	2,093	3,674	3,478	r2,648	2,748
Lumber and furniture.....do....	894	933	1,050	983	r1,065	1,063
Stone, clay, and glass.....do....	710	757	829	781	r812	758
Nondurable goods industries, total 1/.....do....	14,263	14,636	15,340	15,026	r15,476	16,165
Food and beverage.....do....	4,452	4,571	4,679	4,610	r4,579	4,859
Tobacco.....do....	387	398	451	416	r413	418
Textile.....do....	1,098	1,131	1,260	1,119	r1,296	1,304
Paper.....do....	960	958	1,052	986	r1,041	1,084
Chemical.....do....	1,983	2,137	2,180	2,044	r2,078	2,238
Petroleum and coal.....do....	2,787	2,774	3,033	3,093	r3,056	3,180
Rubber.....do....	442	445	546	514	r480	504
Value (seasonally adjusted), total.....do....	26,388	26,804	31,248	30,858	r29,203	29,649
Durable goods industries, total 1/.....do....	12,385	12,723	15,771	15,384	r14,008	14,115
Primary metal.....do....	1,984	2,065	2,916	2,104	r1,227	1,200
Fabricated metal.....do....	1,482	1,593	1,758	1,787	r1,703	1,788
Machinery (including electrical).....do....	3,817	3,999	4,565	4,778	r4,651	4,698
Transportation equipment (incl. motor vehicles).do....	2,582	2,438	3,558	3,667	r3,577	3,601
Lumber and furniture.....do....	832	850	1,035	1,077	r991	968
Stone, clay, and glass.....do....	657	701	768	805	r751	702
Nondurable goods industries, total 1/.....do....	14,003	14,081	15,477	15,474	r15,195	15,534
Food and beverage.....do....	4,373	4,312	4,614	4,540	r4,511	4,627
Tobacco.....do....	372	386	414	382	r395	410
Textile.....do....	1,077	1,027	1,281	1,256	r1,250	1,216
Paper.....do....	941	949	1,042	1,060	r1,011	1,052
Chemical.....do....	2,003	2,071	2,125	2,171	r2,092	2,139
Petroleum and coal.....do....	2,787	2,860	3,095	3,093	r3,071	3,245
Rubber.....do....	438	464	520	519	r492	520

r/ Revised. 1/ Includes data for "other industries" not shown.

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ITEM	1958		1959			
	August	September	June	July	August	September
GENERAL BUSINESS INDICATORS - Continued						
Manufacturers' inventories, end of month:						
Book value (unadjusted), total.....mil. of dol..	48,887	48,910	51,990	51,790	r51,524	51,440
Durable goods industries, total 1/.....do....	27,658	27,745	30,217	30,079	r29,679	29,493
Primary metal.....do....	4,100	4,099	4,013	4,007	r3,979	3,985
Fabricated metal.....do....	2,777	2,785	3,500	3,487	r3,295	3,042
Machinery (including electrical).....do....	9,110	8,918	9,801	9,779	r9,722	9,654
Transportation equipment (incl. motor vehicles).do....	6,302	6,718	7,220	7,114	7,013	7,188
Lumber and furniture.....do....	1,725	1,691	1,796	1,848	r1,859	1,852
Stone, clay, and glass.....do....	1,196	1,164	1,295	1,275	r1,229	1,227
By stages of fabrication:						
Purchased materials.....bil. of dol..	7.5	7.7	8.8	9.0	r8.9	8.5
Goods in process.....do....	11.1	11.3	11.7	11.7	r11.6	11.8
Finished goods.....do....	9.1	8.8	9.7	9.4	9.2	9.2
Nondurable goods industries, total 1/.....mil. of dol..	21,229	21,165	21,773	21,711	r21,845	21,947
Food and beverage.....do....	4,644	4,736	4,604	4,628	r4,824	4,976
Tobacco.....do....	1,746	1,783	1,764	1,737	r1,773	1,872
Textile.....do....	2,499	2,432	2,576	2,563	r2,481	2,474
Paper.....do....	1,404	1,391	1,499	1,457	r1,458	1,437
Chemical.....do....	3,674	3,647	3,777	3,809	r3,828	3,826
Petroleum and coal.....do....	3,340	3,369	3,349	3,347	r3,399	3,357
Rubber.....do....	963	983	1,013	1,032	r1,057	1,089
By stages of fabrication:						
Purchased materials.....bil. of dol..	8.4	8.4	8.7	8.7	r8.6	8.7
Goods in process.....do....	2.9	2.9	3.1	3.1	r3.1	3.0
Finished goods.....do....	9.9	9.9	10.0	9.9	10.1	10.2
Book value (adjusted), total.....mil. of dol..	49,425	49,296	52,138	52,241	r52,116	51,813
Durable goods industries, total 1/.....do....	28,066	28,048	30,227	30,349	r30,145	29,749
Primary metal.....do....	4,110	4,043	4,201	4,108	r3,980	3,937
Fabricated metal.....do....	2,777	2,842	3,365	3,411	r3,328	3,104
Machinery (including electrical).....do....	9,221	9,074	9,725	9,802	r9,826	9,745
Transportation equipment (incl. motor vehicles).do....	6,536	6,751	7,386	7,397	r7,333	7,223
Lumber and furniture.....do....	1,742	1,732	1,764	1,823	r1,841	1,863
Stone, clay, and glass.....do....	1,220	1,212	1,276	1,270	r1,261	1,278
By stages of fabrication:						
Purchased materials.....bil. of dol..	7.4	7.5	8.9	8.9	8.7	8.3
Goods in process.....do....	11.3	11.3	11.9	11.9	11.9	11.9
Finished goods.....do....	9.3	9.2	9.5	9.5	9.5	9.5
Nondurable goods industries, total 1/.....mil. of dol..	21,359	21,248	21,911	21,892	r21,971	22,064
Food and beverage.....do....	4,638	4,598	4,928	4,847	r4,833	4,852
Tobacco.....do....	1,838	1,838	1,819	1,838	r1,866	1,945
Textile.....do....	2,524	2,499	2,532	2,534	r2,495	2,546
Paper.....do....	1,418	1,405	1,492	1,457	r1,473	1,466
Chemical.....do....	3,734	3,747	3,768	3,847	r3,907	3,942
Petroleum and coal.....do....	3,274	3,271	3,366	3,314	r3,332	3,228
Rubber.....do....	1,024	1,024	1,013	1,075	r1,113	1,134
By stages of fabrication:						
Purchased materials.....bil. of dol..	8.7	8.6	9.0	9.0	r9.0	9.0
Goods in process.....do....	3.0	2.9	3.0	3.1	3.1	3.1
Finished goods.....do....	9.7	9.7	9.9	9.8	9.9	10.0
Manufacturers' orders:						
New orders, net (unadjusted), total.....mil. of dol..	26,096	26,855	32,302	29,449	r28,493	30,376
Durable goods industries, total 1/.....do....	11,807	12,301	16,936	14,424	r13,120	14,326
Primary metal.....do....	2,006	2,136	2,583	1,749	r1,633	1,813
Fabricated metal.....do....	1,599	1,673	1,775	1,793	r1,796	1,964
Machinery (including electrical).....do....	3,666	4,020	5,409	4,658	r4,393	4,938
Transportation equipment (incl. motor vehicles)...do....	1,866	1,630	4,039	3,161	r2,342	2,666
Nondurable goods industries, total.....do....	14,289	14,554	15,366	15,025	r15,373	16,050
New orders, net (adjusted), total.....do....	26,096	27,047	31,404	30,827	r28,951	30,641
Durable goods industries, total 1/.....do....	12,177	12,859	16,133	15,493	r13,974	15,018
Primary metal.....do....	2,063	2,334	2,578	2,018	r1,689	1,965
Fabricated metal.....do....	1,523	1,578	1,811	1,793	r1,710	1,853
Machinery (including electrical).....do....	3,851	4,242	4,922	4,893	r4,623	5,211
Transportation equipment (incl. motor vehicles)...do....	2,245	1,946	3,841	3,631	r3,185	3,130
Nondurable goods industries, total.....do....	13,919	14,188	15,271	15,334	r14,977	15,623
Unfilled orders, end of month (unadjusted), total.....do....	46,700	46,232	50,402	50,605	r50,573	51,071
Durable goods industries, total 1/.....do....	43,963	43,577	46,979	47,183	r47,254	47,867
Primary metal.....do....	3,800	3,867	4,950	4,914	r5,382	5,989
Fabricated metal.....do....	3,109	3,086	3,210	3,243	r3,229	3,263
Machinery (including electrical).....do....	16,281	16,308	17,530	17,838	17,828	18,005
Transportation equipment (incl. motor vehicles)...do....	16,647	16,184	16,366	16,049	r15,743	15,661
Nondurable goods industries, total.....do....	2,737	2,655	3,423	3,422	r3,319	3,204
EMPLOYMENT						
Labor turnover in manufacturing establishments:						
Accession rates, total.....monthly rate per 100 employees..	3.9	4.0	4.4	3.3	r3.9	p3.7
New hires.....do....	1.6	1.9	3.0	2.2	r2.5	p2.5
Separation rates, total.....do....	3.5	3.5	2.8	3.3	r3.7	p4.2
Quits.....do....	1.2	1.5	1.3	1.3	r1.8	p2.2
Layoffs.....do....	1.9	1.6	1.0	1.4	r1.4	p1.4
FINANCE						
Consumer credit (short-and intermediate-term):						
Total outstanding, end of month.....mil. of dol..	43,128	43,144	46,716	47,256	47,910	48,394
Installment credit, total.....do....	33,165	33,079	35,810	36,449	37,049	37,495

r/ Revised. p/ Preliminary. 1/ Includes data for "other industries" not shown.

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ITEM	1958		1959			
	August	September	June	July	August	September
FINANCE - Continued						
Consumer credit (short- and intermediate-term) - Continued						
Installment credit extended and repaid:						
Unadjusted: Extended, total.....mil. of dol..	3,385	3,297	4,432	4,292	4,139	4,103
Repaid, total.....do....	3,294	3,383	3,651	3,653	3,539	3,567
Adjusted: Extended, total.....do....	3,416	3,326	3,983	4,102	4,103	4,105
Repaid, total.....do....	3,403	3,376	3,531	3,602	3,601	3,620
TRANSPORTATION AND COMMUNICATIONS						
Operations on scheduled airlines: 1/						
Miles flown, revenue.....thousands..	64,193	61,693	64,060	65,898	66,548	.....
Express and freight ton-miles flown.....do....	28,224	28,187	28,545	27,844	29,342	.....
Mail ton-miles flown.....do....	8,098	8,189	9,201	9,130	8,997	.....
Passengers originated, revenue.....do....	3,662	3,432	4,114	3,983	4,193	.....
Passenger-miles flown, revenue.....millions..	2,381	2,100	2,629	2,593	2,735	.....
METALS AND MANUFACTURES						
Fabricated structural steel:						
Orders, new (net).....thous. of short tons..	226	256	291	259	197	284
Shipments.....do....	298	314	365	239	220	183
Backlog, end of month.....do....	2,119	2,047	1,717	1,679	1,772	1,871
Machine tools (metal-cutting and metal-forming):						
New orders (net), total.....mil. of dol..	28.30	28.10	65.40	63.40	r52.20	p59.60
Domestic.....do....	23.20	24.65	60.10	53.25	r47.05	p50.55
Shipments, total.....do....	29.80	34.90	50.05	40.60	r40.30	p45.80
Domestic.....do....	24.95	29.65	44.95	37.00	35.35	p41.80
Estimated backlog.....months..	2.8	2.9	4.1	4.6	r4.8	p5.0
	September	October	July	August	September	October
COMMODITY PRICES						
Prices received, by farmers, all farm products, 1910-14=100..	255	249	240	239	239	235
Crops.....do....	228	221	226	221	220	219
Commercial vegetables.....do....	182	205	215	214	214	241
Cotton.....do....	292	281	287	281	280	274
Feed grains and hay.....do....	157	149	161	159	156	149
Food grains.....do....	196	201	200	201	198	203
Fruit.....do....	320	267	206	211	230	214
Oil-bearing crops.....do....	217	212	222	214	204	208
Potatoes (including dry edible beans).....do....	124	111	232	164	146	147
Tobacco.....do....	485	499	503	504	510	505
Livestock and products.....do....	278	274	252	254	256	248
Dairy products.....do....	263	270	239	251	265	273
Meat animals.....do....	340	333	314	314	307	291
Poultry and eggs.....do....	171	162	139	139	143	138
Wool.....do....	204	203	248	249	244	235
Prices paid by farmers:						
All commodities and services.....do....	274	274	275	275	274	275
Family living items.....do....	286	287	289	288	r288	290
Production items.....do....	265	265	266	266	r265	264
All commod., services, int., taxes, and wage rates..do....	294	294	298	297	297	296
Parity ratio.....do....	87	85	81	80	80	79

r/ Revised. p/ Preliminary. 1/ Data beginning June 1959 include operations intra-Alaska and intra-Hawaii, not included in earlier figures.
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